

Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 663, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish the Merchant Mariner Equity Compensation Fund to provide benefits to certain individuals who served in the United States merchant marine (including the Army Transport Service and the Naval Transport Service) during World War II.

S. 706

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) and the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) were added as cosponsors of S. 706, a bill to increase housing, awareness, and navigation demonstration services (HANDS) for individuals with autism spectrum disorders.

S. 729

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 729, a bill to amend the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 to permit States to determine State residency for higher education purposes and to authorize the cancellation of removal and adjustment of status of certain alien students who are long-term United States residents and who entered the United States as children, and for other purposes.

S. 841

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 841, a bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to study and establish a motor vehicle safety standard that provides for a means of alerting blind and other pedestrians of motor vehicle operation.

S. 1056

At the request of Mr. VOINOVICH, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER) and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) were added as cosponsors of S. 1056, a bill to establish a commission to develop legislation designed to reform tax policy and entitlement benefit programs and ensure a sound fiscal future for the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 1147

At the request of Mr. KOHL, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1147, a bill to prevent tobacco smuggling, to ensure the collection of all tobacco taxes, and for other purposes.

S. 1237

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1237, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand the grant program for homeless veterans with special needs to include male homeless veterans with minor dependents and to establish a grant program for reintegration of homeless women veterans and homeless veterans with children, and for other purposes.

S. 1478

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the names of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 1478, a bill to strengthen communities through English literacy and civics education for new Americans, and for other purposes.

S. 1547

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1547, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, and the United States Housing Act of 1937 to enhance and expand the assistance provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Housing and Urban Development to homeless veterans and veterans at risk of homelessness, and for other purposes.

S. 1584

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KIRK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1584, a bill to prohibit employment discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity.

S. 1646

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1646, a bill to keep Americans working by strengthening and expanding short-time compensation programs that provide employers with an alternative to layoffs.

S. 1780

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1780, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to deem certain service in the reserve components as active service for purposes of laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

S. 1823

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1823, a bill to renew the temporary suspension of duty on certain footwear.

S. 1833

At the request of Mr. UDALL of Colorado, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1833, a bill to amend the Credit Card Accountability Responsibility and Disclosure Act of 2009 to establish an earlier effective date for various consumer protections, and for other purposes.

S. 1859

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1859, a bill to reinstate Federal matching of State spending of child support incentive payments.

S. 1927

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1927, a bill to establish a moratorium

on credit card interest rate increases, and for other purposes.

S. 2128

At the request of Mr. LEMIEUX, the names of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2128, a bill to provide for the establishment of the Office of Deputy Secretary for Health Care Fraud Prevention.

S. 2336

At the request of Mr. SESSIONS, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2336, a bill to safeguard intelligence collection and enact a fair and responsible reauthorization of the 3 expiring provisions of the USA PATRIOT Improvements and Reauthorization Act.

S. RES. 316

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 316, a resolution calling upon the President to ensure that the foreign policy of the United States reflects appropriate understanding and sensitivity concerning issues related to human rights, ethnic cleansing, and genocide documented in the United States record relating to the Armenian Genocide, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. JOHNSON:

S. 2726. A bill to modify the boundary of the Minuteman Missile National Historic Site in the State of South Dakota, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, today I introduced legislation that will allow the Minuteman Missile National Historic Site to move forward with development of a visitor center. Specifically, my legislation will allow 25 acres of national Forest Service land to be transferred to the National Park Service where the visitor center and administrative facility will be constructed.

The launch control facility and missile silo that make up the Minuteman Missile National Historic Site were preserved to illustrate the history of the cold war and the role the Air Force's Minuteman II missile defense system played in efforts to preserve world peace. Construction of a visitor center will help tell this story and allow many more to learn about this historic site. I was pleased to help establish Minuteman Missile as part of the national park system in 1999, and I am now glad to be able to follow through on fully developing resources for visitors.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 333—DESIGNATING EACH OF SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2009, AND SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2010, AS “NATIONAL WOUNDED WARRIOR DAY”

Mr. ISAKSON submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 333

Whereas recognizing “National Wounded Warrior Day” would embrace an already existing “mindset of remembrance” for men and women alike that have served our Nation;

Whereas the current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan have seen many wounded warriors whose injuries grow more serious as the enemy increases the use of improvised explosive devices;

Whereas those disabled veterans who have served in previous conflicts without any recognition and those disabled veterans who are currently recovering remind us that we, as people and as a Nation, need to thank and care for our disabled veterans; and

Whereas the number of casualties after 8 years of the current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan is over 4,000 and recognizing “National Wounded Warrior Day” would ensure that the sacrifice of wounded warriors would not be forgotten: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates each of Saturday, November 7, 2009, and Saturday, November 6, 2010, as “National Wounded Warrior Day”; and

(2) encourages the United States to honor our wounded warriors who have sacrificed their safety in order to preserve our freedom.

SENATE RESOLUTION 334—DESIGNATING THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2009, AS “FEED AMERICA DAY”

Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. REID, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. CRAPO, and Mr. LUGAR) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 334

Whereas Thanksgiving Day celebrates the spirit of selfless giving and an appreciation for family and friends;

Whereas the spirit of Thanksgiving Day is a virtue upon which the Nation was founded;

Whereas according to the Department of Agriculture, roughly 35,000,000 people in the United States, including 12,000,000 children, continue to live in households that do not have an adequate supply of food; and

Whereas selfless sacrifice breeds a genuine spirit of thanksgiving, both affirming and restoring fundamental principles in our society: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates Thursday, November 19, 2009, as “Feed America Day”; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States to sacrifice 2 meals on Thursday, November 19, 2009, and to donate the money that they would have spent on such food to a religious or charitable organization of their choice for the purpose of feeding the hungry.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I rise today to speak regarding an effort that I have supported for a number of years and something I am very proud to have

championed in the Senate for over 4 years. I speak, of Feed America Day. More than just the recognition of a single day, the Feed America campaign is a nationwide effort promoted by a number of charitable organizations and supported by numerous communities throughout the country. It is aimed at encouraging our Nation's spirit of selflessness and sacrifice in order to help those in need.

Those who participate in Feed America Day encourage all Americans to sacrifice two meals on the Thursday before Thanksgiving Day and to donate the money they would have used for food to a charity or religious organization in their community for the purpose of feeding the Hungry. In a simple and practical way, this is an effort to harness the generosity of the American people in the spirit of the Thanksgiving season.

We live in the most prosperous nation on the planet. Even in the face of our current difficulties, that remains true. Yet, according to the Department of Agriculture's most recent numbers, roughly 35 million Americans, including 12 million children, live in households that do not have an adequate supply of food. I think we can all agree that it is a good idea to encourage the American people to do more for the hungry in their communities, even if we don't always agree as to what Congress should do on such matters.

Today, I have submitted a resolution that would designate Thursday, November 19, 2009, as Feed America Day. Once passed, this will be the fifth consecutive year that this day has been recognized by the Senate. I want to personally thank Senator TOM UDALL from New Mexico for all his efforts in supporting and promoting this resolution and we are joined by Senators BENNETT, CRAPO, LUGAR, and REED. I urge my Senate colleagues and every American to join me in helping to assist those in need and affirming the long-standing values that have made our Nation great.

SENATE RESOLUTION 335—DESIGNATING NOVEMBER 29, 2009, AS “DRIVE SAFER SUNDAY”

Mr. ISAKSON (for himself and Mr. CHAMBLISS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 335

Whereas motor vehicle travel is the primary means of transportation in the United States;

Whereas every individual traveling on the roads and highways needs to drive in a safer manner in order to reduce deaths and injuries that result from motor vehicle accidents;

Whereas according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, wearing a seat belt saves more than 15,000 lives each year;

Whereas the Senate wants all people of the United States to understand the life-saving importance of wearing a seat belt and encourages motorists to drive safely, not just

during the holiday season, but every time they get behind the wheel; and

Whereas the Sunday after Thanksgiving is the busiest highway traffic day of the year: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) encourages—

(A) high schools, colleges, universities, administrators, teachers, primary schools, and secondary schools to launch campus-wide educational campaigns to urge students to be focused on safety when driving;

(B) national trucking firms to alert their drivers to be especially focused on driving safely on the Sunday after Thanksgiving, and to publicize the importance of the day through use of Citizen's Band (“CB”) radios and truck stops across the Nation;

(C) clergy to remind their members to travel safely when attending services and gatherings;

(D) law enforcement personnel to remind drivers and passengers to drive safely, particularly on the Sunday after Thanksgiving; and

(E) all people of the United States to use the Sunday after Thanksgiving as an opportunity to educate themselves about highway safety; and

(2) designates November 29, 2009, as “Drive Safer Sunday”.

SENATE RESOLUTION 336—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING DESIGNATION OF THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2009 AS “NATIONAL MILITARY FAMILY MONTH”

Mr. INOUE (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. COCHRAN, and Mr. INHOFE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 336

Whereas military families, through their sacrifices and their dedication to the United States and its values, represent the bedrock upon which the United States was founded and upon which the country continues to rely in these perilous and challenging times: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) it is the sense of the Senate that the month of November 2009 should be designated as “National Military Family Month”; and

(2) the Senate encourages the people of the United States to observe “National Military Family Month” with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 337—DESIGNATING DECEMBER 6, 2009, AS “NATIONAL MINERS DAY”

Mr. REID (for Mr. BYRD (for himself and Mr. ROCKEFELLER)) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 337

Whereas the foundations of civilization are constructed from, advanced by, and sustained with, the materials procured with the sweat and blood of miners;

Whereas the miners of the United States have labored long and hard over our nation's existence to make it the economically strong, militarily secure Nation that it is today;

Whereas miners and their families have achieved, provided, and sacrificed so much for the betterment of their fellow Americans;